

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COTONO 00990 071302Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ARA-10 /091 W

-----071307Z 097360 /45

R 071230Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9764

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMCONSUL IBADAN

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, DM, CU

SUBJ: VISIT BY CUBAN MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO BENIN

1. A SIX-MEMBER DELEGATION LED BY CUBAN MIN FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS KALMIERCA PEOLI ARRIVED IN COTONOU JUNE 6 FOR HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN (GPRB). JUNE 7 EDITION OF SEMI-OFFICIAL DAILY EHUZU REPORTED THAT MALMIERCA PEOLI WAS RECEIVED IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS ARRIVAL BY PRESIDENT KEREKOU AND THE TWO MEN HELD PRIVATE TALKS. EHUZU QUOTES MALMIERCA AS SAYING PURPOSE OF VISIT IS TO JOIN BENINESE AUTHORITIES IN SEEKING WAYS AND MEANS TO STRENGTHEN THE LINKS OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE CUBAN AND BENINESE PEOPLE. MALMIERCA SAID HE CARRIED A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM FIDEL CASTRO INVITING

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KEREKOU TO MAKE OFFICIAL VISIT TO CUBA.

2. MALMIERCA AND DELEGATION WERE ESCORTED TO VARIOUS RALLIES BY TOP BENINESE OFFICIALS LED BY KEREKOU. SPEECHES, AS REPORTED IN NEWSPAPER, CONSISTED OF USUAL ANTI-IMPERIALIST RHETORIC AND VOWS OF SOCIALIST SOLIWERITY. PREDICTABLY, ONE OF MAJOR THEMES WAS BENIN'S VICTORY OVER IMPERIALIST AGGRESSION OF

JAN 16, 1977. MALMIERCA DREW PARALLEL BETWEEN DEFEAT OF MERCENARIES AND CUBAN VICTORY AT BAY OF PIGS. CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT ONE MUST NOT FORGET OTHERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD FIGHTING FOR THEIR LIBERTY, PARTICULARLY IN ZIMBABWE, NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICA.

3. COMMENT: MALMIERCA'S VISIT WAS NOT ANNOUNCED IN ADVANCE AND CAME AS SOMEWHAT OF A SURPRISE TO DIPLOMATIC OBSERVERS HERE. NO DETAILS ARE YET AVAILABLE CONCERNING SPECIFICS OF TOPICS DISCUSSED, ALTHOUGH MALMIERCA ALLUDED IN A SPEECH TO COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION, THE PRESS, AND PUBLIC HEALTH. THERE ARE RUMORS THAT MILITIA EXPERTS WERE AMONG DELEGATION BUT WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO SUBSTANTIATE THIS. THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, GOODWILL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977COTON000990
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770202-0614
Format: TEL
From: COTONOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770684/aaaacvqc.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 68a6bf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2253270
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT BY CUBAN MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO BENIN
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, DM, CU, (MALMIERCA PEOLI, ISIDORO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/68a6bf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009